--- "Series of 1868"- Cigar Strips - CANADA CUSTOMS - lithographed in BLUE ink - 485 x 50 mm. ---

1st BABN Contract (1868-1873)	John McKay records that 1,690,000 *lithographed* "Blue Cigar" stamps were delivered. These will be in Division Open format, since there were no Division Specific blue Customs stamps. He also records the delivery of 65,250 "Long, Blue (Customs). I ***do not understand*** this second entry.
2nd BABN Contract (1873-1878)	John McKay records another 1,032,000 *lithographed* "Blue Cigar" stamps were delivered.
3rd BABN Contract (1878-1886)	John McKay records a 373,000 *lithographed* "Long Blue (old) Cigar" as delivered.

--- the "theoretical" control numbers - from the John McKay report ---

1st BABN Contract (1868-1873) -	1,690,000	**000001** to **A690000**
1st BABN Contract (1868-1873) -	65,250	**A690001** to **A752250**
2nd BABN Contract (1873-1878) -	1,032,000	**A752251** to **B787250**
3rd BABN Contract (1878-1886) -	373,000	**B784251** to **C160250**
	3,160,250	

The catalogue lists the "Series of 1868" CANADA CUSTOMS blue cigar strips as follows:

--- "*Val. Per M.* ....." on the 7th line ---

RG-38 - Cigars, blue, perf 10, lithographed on *vertically laid* paper, longitudinally *wmkd* (crown / *EXCISE* / beaver / *1868*), with 27 mm. batonne lines, and 5 mm. red controls
RG-39† - Cigars, blue, perf 9, lithographed on *vertically laid* paper, diagonally *wmkd* (crown / *EXCISE* / *1867*), with 27 mm. batonne lines, and 5 mm. red controls - **WANTED!**
RG-40 - Cigars, blue, perf 10, lithographed on *unwmkd* thick wove, with 5 mm. red controls
RG-40a† - Cigars, blue, perf 10, lithographed on *unwmkd* thick wove, with double 5 mm. red controls

--- with the shaded "A" background---

RG-41 - Cigars, blue, perf 10, on *unwmkd* thick wove, with 5 mm. red controls
RG-42 - Cigars, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* thick wove, with 5 mm. red controls

--- with the shaded "B" background---

RG-43 - Cigars, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* thick wove, with 5 mm. red controls
RG-44 - Cigars, blue, perf 12, CANADA EXCISE, ERROR, on *unwmkd* thick wove
RG-45 - RG-44 overprinted CANADA / CUSTOMS
RG-50 - Cigars, blue, perf 9, on *unwmkd* thick wove, with 5 mm. red controls

--- with the shaded "C" background ---

--- *without* "XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII" at the sides - as of July 1st 1880 ---

RG-108 - Cigars, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* thick wove, with 5 mm. red controls
RG-109 - Cigars, blue, perf 9, on *unwmkd* thick wove, with 5 mm. red controls

--- the "actual" control numbers - as recorded to date ---

--- "*Val. Per M.* ....." on the 7th line ---

RG-38 - **007454** to **312986**
RG-39 - no numbered copies
RG-40 - **604672** to **990230**

--- the shaded "A" background ---

RG-41 - **A356265** to **A758778**
RG-42 - **A864267** to **A996507**

--- the shaded "B" background ---

RG-43 - **B029572** to **B068512**
RG-44 - **B207338** to **B331660 - the EXCISE ERROR**
RG-45 - **B375050** - overprinted **CANADA / CUSTOMS** - a single copy
RG-50 - **B455410** to **B968510**

--- the shaded "C" background ---

--- without "XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII" at the sides ---

RG-108 - **C003005** - a single copy
RG-109 - **C074172** to **C124946**

[Chris Ryan, "Canadian Revenue Newsletter", No. 39, of May 2002]

"From its formation in 1867, through to 1881, the 'Customs Department' made their own separate arrangements with BABN for the blue stamps used on imported tobacco products. As a consequence of this, the initial Customs versions of the BABN stamps did not appear until 1869".

According to BABN records 'square' and 'strip' stamps were ordered, but only examples of the square stamp are currently known to this writer. These square Customs stamps were issued *only* with serial numbers on or under the Queen's head, having no previous un-numbered versions other than proofs and specimens. The initial supply of these stamps was delivered by BABN to the 'Customs Department' in March of 1869."

--- RG-38 - “Series of 1868”- CANADA CUSTOMS - 1870 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE ink on *vertically laid* paper - perforated 10 - with 5 mm. red controls ---

--- longitudinally *watermarked* (crown / EXCISE / beaver / 1868) - 485 x 50 mm ---

--- inscribed “XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII” - scanned at 100% scale ---

★**RG-38** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 10, lithographed on *vertically laid* paper, control number **079477**, linear *wmk* (crown / EXCISE / beaver / *1868*) - used at *Montreal* in *1870*

007454★		RG-38	Customs, blue, perf 10, *linear wmk* (crown / EXCISE / beaver / *1868*), used at *Montreal*, Entry No. *13737*, signed *T. D. Reed, pro*
007480 ○		RG-38	Customs, blue, perf 10, *linear wmk* (crown / EXCISE / beaver / *1868*)
012003★		RG-38	Customs, blue, perf 10, *linear wmk* (crown / EXCISE / beaver / *1868*)
012010		RG-38	Customs, blue, perf 10, *linear wmk* (crown / EXCISE / beaver / *1868*)
079477★	1870	RG-38	Customs, blue, perf 10, *linear wmk* (crown / EXCISE / beaver / *1868*), used at *Montreal*, Entry No. *767*
148664	1870	RG-38	Customs, blue, perf 10, *linear wmk* (crown / EXCISE / beaver / *1868*), used at *Montreal*, dated *1870*, Entry No. *9757*
312986		RG-38	Customs, blue, perf 10, *linear wmk* (crown / EXCISE / beaver / *1868*), prepared for *Toronto*, otherwise unused

--- RG-40 - “Series of 1868”- CANADA CUSTOMS - 1872 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE ink on *unwatermarked* horizontal mesh *wove* - perforated 10 - 485 x 50 mm. ---

--- inscribed “XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII” - with 5 mm. red controls ---

★**RG-40** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 10, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **886171**, used at *Toronto* in *1872*, with Entry No. *10651*

604672★	1872	RG-40	Customs, blue, perf 10, on horizontal mesh *unwatermarked* wove, used at *Montreal,* Entry No. *17468*, dated 18*72*
823377 ○		RG-40	Customs, blue, perf 10, on horizontal mesh *unwatermarked* wove, used at *Victoria, B.C.*
830009	1872	RG-40	Customs, blue, perf 10, on horizontal mesh *unwatermarked* wove, used at *Toronto,* Entry No. *7420*, Val. per M / *1920*, signed *J.E. Smith*
886171 ★	1872	RG-40	Customs, blue, perf 10, on horizontal mesh *unwatermarked* wove, used at *Toronto*, Entry No. *10651*
990230	1872	RG-40	Customs, blue, perf 10, on horizontal mesh *unwatermarked* wove, used at *Montreal*, Entry No. *7182* - a right edge copy

when the control numbers on **RG-40** reached **999999** a shaded A was inserted into the background

--- RG-41 - “Series of 1868”- CANADA CUSTOMS - 1872-74 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE on *unwatermarked* horizontal mesh wove - perforated 10 - 485 x 50 mm. ---

--- inscribed “XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII” - with 5 mm. red controls - scanned at 100% scale ---

Note: **RG-40** and **RG-41** have identical characteristics (paper, perf and inscriptions) but **RG-41** has the large central A

★**RG-41** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 10, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **A546207**, used at *Montreal* in *1873*, with Entry No. *3255*

A356265	1872	RG-41	Customs, blue, perf 10, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Montreal*, with Entry No. *29334*, dated **18***72*
A546207★	1873	RG-41	Customs, blue, perf 10, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Montreal*, with Entry No. *3255*

Note: the 2nd BABN Contract runs from **A690001** to **B722000**, but I do not have a **2nd BABN Contract** perf 10 strip to illustrate:

A737141 ○	1874	RG-41	Customs, blue, perf 10, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Montreal*, with Entry No. *19324*
A758778	1874	RG-41	Customs, blue, perf 10, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Montreal*, with Entry No. *156* - a Sheldon Posen box

--- RG-42 - "Series of 1868"- CANADA CUSTOMS - 1875-77 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE on *unwatermarked* horizontal mesh wove - perforated 12 - 485 x 50 mm. ---

--- inscribed "XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII" - with 5 mm. red control numbers - scanned at 100% scale ---

★**RG-42** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **A996507**, used at *Toronto* in *1877*, with Entry No. *28657*

A864267★	1875	RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Montreal*, with Entry No. *2274*
A876477	1875	RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
A879701	1875	RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Montreal*, with Entry No. *2645*
A953539 ○	1875	RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Toronto*, with Entry No. *15584*
A962867	1875	RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Toronto*, Entry No. *225*, signed by *J.E. Smith*
A968645 ○	1876	RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Toronto*, with Entry No. *225*
A972322★	1876	RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *St. John, N.B.*, with Entry No. *24161*
A977967		RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
A977970		RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
A994994★		RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
A996507	1877	RG-42	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Toronto*, with Entry No. *28657*

when the control numbers reached **A999999** a shaded B was inserted in the background

--- RG-43 - "Series of 1868"- CANADA CUSTOMS - 1875 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE on *unwatermarked* horizontal mesh wove - perforated 12 - 485 x 50 mm. ---

--- inscribed "XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII" - with 5 mm. red controls - scanned at 100% scale ---

Note: **RG-42** and **RG-43** have identical characteristics (paper, perf and inscriptions) but **RG-43** has the large central B

★**RG-43** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **B029572**, used at *Montreal* in *1875*, with Entry No. *175*

B029572★	1875	RG-43	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Montreal*, Entry No. *175*
B049985 ○	1875	RG-43	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Montreal*, Entry No. *1653*
B057433 ○	1875	RG-43	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Montreal*, Entry No. *1927*
B068512		RG-43	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove

For the next printing, by mistake sheets were lithographed in blue using the CANADA EXCISE outer frame instead of the CANADA CUSTOMS frame, but using the *correct* central Customs **Port of Entry** medallion with the B background. This was not a simple case of printing the EXCISE strip in the wrong colour of ink, since the centre inscription on these strips reads **PORT** *of* _____, / **ENTRY** *No.* _____/ etc., and ends with the final line for the CUSTOMS strip *Coll. Customs*. Whoever set up the printing plate used the wrong outer circular Queen's head EXCISE frame but used the correct CUSTOMS cigar central insert panel.

★**RG-43n?** - Cigars, Customs, blue, (perforations clipped), without controls, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove

--- RG-44 - "Series of 1868"- CANADA EXCISE - 1875-79 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE on *unwatermarked* horizontal mesh wove - perforated 12 - 485 x 50 mm. ---

--- inscribed "XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII" - with 5 mm. red controls - scanned at 100% scale ---

--- the ERROR - with the shaded "B" background ---

★**RG-44** - Cigars, CANADA EXCISE, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **B207338**, the **ERROR** used at *Montreal* in *1878*, with Entry No. *3215*

★**RG-44** - Cigars, CANADA EXCISE, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **B312956**, the **ERROR** prepared for use at *Toronto*, signed *J. E. Smith / pro*

B207338★	1878	RG-44	EXCISE ERROR, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, dated *1878* at *Montreal*, Entry No. *3215*
B224648		RG-44	EXCISE ERROR, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
B312956★		RG-44	EXCISE ERROR, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, prepared for use at *Toronto*
B312958 ○		RG-44	EXCISE ERROR, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, prepared for use at *Toronto*
B312967★		RG-44	EXCISE ERROR, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, prepared for use at *Toronto*, signed *J. E. Smith / pro*
B312981		RG-44	EXCISE ERROR, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, prepared for use at *Toronto*, signed *J. E. Smith / pro*
B331660★	1876	RG-44	EXCISE ERROR, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Toronto*, Entry No. *23958*, dated *1876*, signed *J.E. Smith / pro*

--- RG-45 - “Series of 1868”- ERROR Corrected - 1880 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE on *unwatermarked* horizontal mesh wove - perforated 12 - 485 x 50 mm. ---

--- inscribed “XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII” - with 5 mm. red controls - scanned at 100% scale ---

--- the overprint CANADA / CUSTOMS - on the CANADA EXCISE error - with the shaded “B” background ---

After the above initial distribution of the incorrect sheets, the ‘error’ sheets were held until corrected by overprinting ***in red ink*** with **CANADA - CUSTOMS** in 4 and 6 mm. Gothic as **RG-45**. The earlier ‘error’ sheets had been used *without this correction*.

Judging by the 1880 date of use on this copy of **RG-45** and by the 1878 dates on the copies of **RG-50** on the following page use of the incorrect CANADA EXCISE blue strips had been discontinued in 1878 until they were corrected by the red overprinting.

★**RG-45** - Cigars, blue, CANADA EXCISE, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **B375050**, overprinted **CANADA / CUSTOMS**, Entry No. *2147*, dated 18*80* at *Montreal*

B375050★ 1880 RG-45 **CANADA / CUSTOMS** overprint on **RG-44** dated *1880* at *Montreal*, Entry No. *2147*

--- RG-50 - "Series of 1868"- CANADA CUSTOMS - 1877-78 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE on *unwatermarked* horizontal mesh wove - perforated 9 - 485 x 50 mm. ---

--- inscribed "XXXI VICT. / CAP. VIII" - with 5 mm. red controls - scanned at 100% scale ---

★**RG-50** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 9, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **B524193**, used at *Toronto*, Entry No. *26420*, dated in *1878*

B455410★	1877	RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, dated *1878* at *Halifax*, Entry No. *55721*, dated 1877, ~~*Val. Per M.*~~ scratched out and *M* - added above
B524193★	1878	RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, dated *1878* at *Toronto*, Entry No. *26420*
B540585		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Toronto*
B542657 ○	1878	RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, dated *1878* at *Toronto*, Entry No. *16917*
B716870	1880	RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, dated *1880* at *Montreal*, Entry No. *3261*

★**RG-50** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 9, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **B741369**, prepared for use at *Victoria*

B741369★	RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, prepared for use at *Victoria, B.C.*
B741370 ○	RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, prepared for use at *Victoria, B.C.*

★**RG-50** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 9, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **B800033**, prepared for use at *Nanaimo*, B.C. in 18*79*, Entry No. *32 / 15 / 3* (missing 4½ inches of the right end)

B800033★	1879	RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Nanaimo*, Entry No. *32 / 15 / 3*, dated 18*79*
B953205	1881	RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Victoria*, Entry No. *882*, dated 18*81*
B953222★		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Victoria*, Entry No. *882*
B958015		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove

★**RG-50** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 9, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **B958210**, manuscript for use at *Victoria*, B.C. in 18*81*, Entry No. *882*

B958210★	1881	RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, used at *Victoria*, Entry No. *882*, dated 18*81*
B961837★		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
B961840★		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
B961841		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
B965003 ○		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
B965006★		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
B965016-17★		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove - a pair
B965026		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
B965027★		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove
B968510		RG-50	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove

--- RG-108 - “Series of 1868”- CANADA CUSTOMS - 1880-81 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE on *unwatermarked* horizontal mesh wove - perforated 12 - 485 x 50 mm. ---

--- without “XXXI VICT. ---- CAP. VIII” - with 5 mm. red controls - scanned at 100% scale ---

when controls on the preceding issue reached **B999999** a shaded C was inserted in the background

[Chris Ryan, “Canadian Revenue Newsletter”, No. 40, of December 2002]

“Passage of the 1880 Statute affected the *large* tobacco stamps in significant ways. The first effect was the deletion of the reference on the stamps to the previous Statute “XXXI VICTORIA / CHAPTER VIII”. On July 1st 1880, BABN was instructed by the Revenue Department to remove all reference to the old statute from the existing printing plates.”

★**RG-108** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **C003005**, with Entry Number *3085*, used at *Montreal*, dated 188*1* - with “**XXXI VICT. ---- CAP. VIII.”** removed

C003005★	1881	RG-108	Customs, blue, perf 12, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, dated *1881* at *Montreal*, Entry No. *3085*

★**RG-108n / 109n** - Cigars, Customs, blue, (perforations clipped), on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, without controls, without its perforations this could be a copy of **RG-108n** or **RG-109n**

--- RG-109 - “Series of 1868”- CANADA CUSTOMS - 1881 ---

--- lithographed in BLUE on *unwatermarked* horizontal mesh wove - perforated 9 - 485 x 50 mm. ---

--- *without* the inscribed “XXXI VICT. ---- CAP. VIII - with 5 mm. red controls ---

★**RG-109** - Cigars, Customs, blue, perf 9, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, control number **C074172**, with Entry Number *699*, used at *Montreal*, dated 18*81* - with “**XXXI VICT. ---- CAP. VIII**” removed

C074172★	1881	RG-109	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, dated *1881* at *Montreal*, Entry No. *699*
C124946★	1881	RG-109	Customs, blue, perf 9, on horizontal mesh *unwmkd* wove, dated *1881* at *Montreal*, Entry No. *705*

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1868 \ Blue \ strips],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
October 7th 2013 - JBH